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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/878,470	06/11/2001	Kamal Emile Dimitri	TUC920010042US1	2689

49080 7590 06/26/2006

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EXAMINER

CHANG, ERIC

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2116

DATE MAILED: 06/26/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/878,470	DIMITRI ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Eric Chang	2116	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 April 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 14-26 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>6/11/01, 9/11/02</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-13 are pending.

Election/Restrictions

2. Applicant's election without traverse of claims 1-13 in the reply filed on April 6, 2006 is acknowledged. U.S. Patent 6,018,456 to Young et al.

Information Disclosure Statement

3. The information disclosure statement filed September 11, 2002 fails to comply with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2), which requires a legible copy of each cited foreign patent document; each non-patent literature publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; and all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed. It has been placed in the application file, but the information referred to therein has not been considered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claims 1-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,018,456 to Young et al.

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6. As to claim 1, Young discloses an accessor [col. 2, lines 35-39] moveably disposed within a data storage and retrieval system, wherein said data storage and retrieval system includes one or more storage slots a hard disk drive unit removeably disposed in one of said one or more storage slots [col. 2, lines 32-35], said accessor comprising: a first memory device [col. 1, lines 11-15]; an information input/output device connected to first said memory device, wherein said information input/output device can be releaseably coupled to said information input/output port such that information can be exchanged between said hard disk and said memory device [col. 8, lines 34-37]. Young teaches that an adapting accessor is used to removably couple a hard disk drive unit with a peripheral canister [col. 1, lines 38-47], and that the peripheral canister uses the information input/output port to exchange data with a host data processing system. Furthermore, it is well known in the art that a host data processing system comprises a memory device, substantially as claimed.

7. As to claim 2, Young discloses said data storage and retrieval system further comprises a power source, and wherein hard disk drive unit further comprises a power port, said accessor further comprising: a power supply connector connected to said power source [col. 2, lines 47-50]; wherein said power supply connector can be releaseably connected to said power port such that said power source supplies power to said hard disk drive unit [col. 2, lines 35-39, and col. 8, lines 34-37].

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8. As to claim 3, Young discloses a gripper mechanism [col. 2, lines 35-39]; wherein said information input/output device is disposed on said gripper mechanism, and wherein said power connector is disposed on said gripper mechanism [col. 8, lines 34-37]. Young teaches a connector that mates securely to the hard disk drive unit.

9. As to claim 8, Young discloses a data storage and retrieval system, comprising: a host computer [col. 1, lines 11-15]; a backplane unit comprising a first information input/output port, wherein said first information input/output port is in communication with said host computer [col. 2, lines 20-24]; one or more storage slots [col. 2, lines 32-35]; one or more hard disk drive units removeably disposed in said one or more storage slots, wherein each of said one or more hard disk drive units comprises a hard disk, a read/write head, and a second information input/output port, wherein said read/write head is in communication with said second input/output port [col. 2, lines 32-35]; one or more accessors moveably disposed within said data storage and retrieval system, wherein each of said accessors includes a first memory device [col. 1, lines 11-15] and an information input/output device, wherein said first memory device is in communication with said information input/output device [col. 2, lines 35-39]; wherein said information input/output device can be releaseably coupled to said first information input/output port [col. 2, lines 35-39]; and wherein said information input/output device can be releaseably coupled to said second information input/output port [col. 2, lines 35-39]. Young teaches that an information input/output device comprising a multi-pin docking connector is releasably coupled [col. 1, lines 38-47] to a first input/output port on a hard disk drive unit and releasably coupled to a second input/output port on the backplane.

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10. As to claim 9, Young discloses a library controller [col. 2, lines 50-54].
11. As to claim 10, Young discloses a distributed control network [col. 1, lines 19-29]. Young teaches a disk drive controller for managing data distributed over a network of hard disk drives.
12. As to claim 11, Young discloses each of said one or more accessors further comprises an accessor control card [col. 4, lines 50-64].
13. As to claim 13, Young discloses an information transfer station, wherein said backplane unit is disposed in said information transfer station [col. 2, lines 20-24].

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

14. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

15. Claims 4-7 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,018,456 to Young et al.

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16. As to claim 4, Young discloses that any type of connection may be used to connect the peripherals with a host system [col. 1, lines 60-66]. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to use a connection well known in the art, such as a wireless communication device, to connect peripherals with a host system in order to reduce the number of cables within a computer system configuration.

17. As to claim 5, Young discloses a gripper mechanism [col. 2, lines 35-39], and a first memory device [col. 1, lines 11-15]. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to dispose the gripper mechanism and the memory device in any suitable configuration as a matter of design choice.

18. As to claim 6, Young discloses an accessor control card [col. 4, lines 50-64].

19. As to claim 7, Young discloses a second memory device in communication with said information input/output device, wherein said second memory device is disposed on said accessor control card [col. 4, lines 60-64]. It is well known to one of ordinary skill in the art that a hard disk drive controller unit comprises a memory device, such as a ROM or a data buffer.

20. As to claim 12, Young discloses one or more of said one or more accessors further comprises a second memory device in communication with said information input/output device, wherein said second memory device is disposed on said accessor control card [col. 4, lines 60-64]. It is well known to one of ordinary skill in the art that a

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hard disk drive controller unit comprises a memory device, such as a ROM or a data buffer.

Conclusion

21. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Eric Chang whose telephone number is (571) 272-3671. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9:00-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lynne Browne can be reached on (571) 272-3670. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

June 20, 2006
ec


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